PLEASE NOTE: In most  $\underline{BUT}$  NOT  $\underline{ALL}$  instances, the page and line numbering of bills on this web site correspond to the page and line numbering of the official printed version of the bills.

REFERENCE TITLE: EORP; surviving spouse pensions

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-seventh Legislature First Regular Session 2005

## **HB 2457**

Introduced by Representative Burns J

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 38-807, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE ELECTED OFFICIALS' RETIREMENT PLAN.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 38-807, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 38-807. <u>Survivor pensions</u>

- A. The surviving spouse of a retired member shall be paid a pension which terminates on the death of the surviving spouse if the retired member was married to the surviving spouse for at least two years. The surviving spouse's pension under this subsection is three fourths FOUR-FIFTHS of the amount the retired member was receiving at the time of the member's death.
- B. The surviving spouse of an active or inactive member who dies before retirement shall be paid a pension which terminates on the death of the surviving spouse if the active or inactive member was married to the surviving spouse for at least two years.
- C. The surviving spouse's pension under subsection B of this section is three-fourths FOUR-FIFTHS of the amount of pension computed according to section 38-808, subsection B, paragraph 2 under the assumption that the member had retired for reason of disability immediately before death.
- D. If the deceased retired or active or inactive member does not have an eligible surviving spouse or the pension of the eligible surviving spouse is terminated, each surviving unmarried child of the deceased retired or active or inactive member shall be paid a pension which terminates on adoption or the attainment of age eighteen unless the child is a full-time student under the age of twenty-three or the child is under a disability which began before the child attained the age of twenty-three. The amount of the pension of each surviving minor child of a deceased retired or active or inactive member is an equal share of the amount of the surviving spouse's pension. The surviving minor child's pension shall be paid to the person who is the legally appointed guardian or custodian of the eligible child.
- E. If a member dies and no pension is payable on account of the member's death, the deceased member's accumulated contributions shall be paid to the person or persons designated by the deceased member in writing and filed with the fund manager. If the designated person or persons do not survive the deceased member, the accumulated contributions shall be paid to the estate of the deceased member.

## Sec. 2. <u>Current surviving spouse's recalculation of benefit;</u> <u>effective date</u>

- A. A member who is receiving a benefit under the elected officials' retirement plan as a surviving spouse on the effective date of this act is entitled to receive a one-time permanent benefit increase of 6.67 per cent of the member's monthly benefit amount.
- B. The payment prescribed in subsection A is effective on the first day of the month after the effective date of this act.

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